

support they have received by doing community service, fundraising, and public relations for their school system. The citizens of Greenup County, KY are fortunate to have the 2003 National Champions living and learning in their community. Their example of hard work and determination should be followed by all in the Commonwealth.

I am very proud of the accomplishments these young women have made. I would like to congratulate the members of the Greenup County High School Varsity Cheerleading Squad for their success. But also, I want to congratulate their peers, coaches, teachers, administrators, and parents for their support and sacrifices they've made to help the Greenup County High School Varsity Cheerleading Squad make their dreams a reality. •

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-1446. A communication from the Deputy Congressional Liaison, Board of Governors of the Federal System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Equal Credit Opportunity; Regulation B (Doc. No. r-1008)" received on March 6, 2003; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1447. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of the 2002 Wassenaar Arrangement List of Dual-Use Items: Revisions to Categories 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the Commerce Control List, General Software Note, and Reporting Requirements (0694-AC65)" received on March 3, 2003; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1448. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Designation and Nondesignations of Critical Habitat for 42 Plant Species From the Island of Molokai, Hawaii; Final Rule (RIN 1018-AH08)" received on March 3, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1449. A communication from the Secretary of the Commission, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Textile Rules, 16 C.F.R. Part 303 (RIN 3084-0101)" received on March 3, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1450. A communication from the General Counsel, Executive Office for Immigration Review, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Aliens and Nationality; Homeland Security; Reorganization of Regulations (1125-AA42)" received on March 5, 2003; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1451. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Unit, Department for the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tax Shelter Regulations (RIN 1545-AX81,

1545-BB49, 1545-BB50, 1545-48, 1545-BB53, 1545-BB51, 1545-BB52, 1545-AW26, 1545-AX79)" received on March 3, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1452. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Unit, Department for the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Transaction w/Significant Book-Tax Difference, Exceptions (RP-105734-03)" received on March 5, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1453. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Unit, Department for the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Exceptions from Loss Transactions (Rp-105737-03) (Rev. Proc. 2003-24)" received on March 3, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1454. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Fish & Wildlife & Parks, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for the Gulf Sturgeon (1018-AI23)" received on March 3, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of committee was submitted:

By Mr. CAMPBELL for the Committee on Indian Affairs.

*Ross Owen Swimmer, of Oklahoma, to be Special Trustee, Office of Special Trustee for American Indians, Department of the Interior.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. CORZINE (for himself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 574. A bill to amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act to toll the 5-year limit for assistance under the temporary assistance to needy families program for recipients who live in a State that is experiencing significant increases in unemployment; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. INOUE:

S. 575. A bill to amend the Native American Languages Act to provide for the support of Native American language survival schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. CONRAD (for himself, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. HATCH, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. KYL, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. REID, and Mr. SUNUNU):

S. 576. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a shorter recovery period for the depreciation of certain leasehold improvements; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. GREGG, and Mr. SUNUNU):

S. 577. A bill to establish the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area in the States of

Massachusetts and New Hampshire, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. INOUE (for himself, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. AKAKA, and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 578. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to include Indian tribes among the entities consulted with respect to activities carried out by the Secretary of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. HOLINGS, Mr. LOTT, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Mrs. HUTCHISON):

S. 579. A bill to reauthorize the National Transportation Safety Board, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 3

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3, a bill to prohibit the procedure commonly known as partial-birth abortion.

S. 4

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4, a bill to improve access to a quality education for all students.

S. 128

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX) was added as a cosponsor of S. 128, a bill to assist in the conservation of cranes by supporting and providing, through projects of persons and organizations with expertise in crane conservation, financial resources for the conservation programs of countries the activities of which directly or indirectly affect cranes.

S. 270

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 270, a bill to provide for additional weeks of temporary extended unemployment compensation, to provide for a program of temporary enhanced unemployment benefits, and for other purposes.

S. 338

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 338, a bill to protect the flying public's safety and security by requiring that the air traffic control system remain a Government function.

S. 473

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 473, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify the jurisdiction of the United States over waters of the United States.

S. 480

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) were added as cosponsors of S. 480, a bill to

provide competitive grants for training court reporters and closed captioners to meet requirements for realtime writers under the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and for other purposes.

S. 486

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN), the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 486, a bill to provide for equal coverage of mental health benefits with respect to health insurance coverage unless comparable limitations are imposed on medical and surgical benefits.

S. 488

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 488, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a 5-year extension of the credit for electricity produced from wind.

S. 491

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 491, a bill to expand research regarding inflammatory bowel disease, and for other purposes.

S. 539

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 539, a bill to authorize appropriations for border and transportation security personnel and technology, and for other purposes.

S. 560

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 560, a bill to impose tariff-rate quotas on certain casein and milk protein concentrates.

S. RES. 48

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 48, a resolution designating April 2003 as "Financial Literacy for Youth Month".

S. RES. 52

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S.

Res. 52, a resolution recognizing the social problem of child abuse and neglect, and supporting efforts to enhance public awareness of the problem.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CORZINE (for himself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 574. A bill to amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act to toll the 5-year limit for assistance under the temporary assistance to needy families program for recipients who live in a State that is experiencing significant increases in unemployment; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, I rise today to reintroduce legislation, the Unemployment Protection for Low-Income Families on TANF Act, or UPLIFT Act, that will protect low-income families who are transitioning from welfare to work from losing their welfare benefits during periods of high unemployment. I want to thank my colleague, Senator MURRAY, for joining me in cosponsoring this important legislation.

Forcing families off welfare during a recession because they cannot find a job lacks commonsense. In fact, during an economic downturn, which we are in right now, low-skilled workers and recently employed workers are more likely to lose their jobs, and unfortunately, only 30 to 40 percent of former welfare recipients who become unemployed qualify for Unemployment Insurance. Furthermore, there are 1.5 million fewer jobs today than there were a year ago, when the economic downturn began, making it increasingly difficult for these individuals to find employment, particularly full-time employment.

A single parent receiving welfare assistance while working 30 hours a week who loses her job during a recession should not be penalized. For families like this, welfare is the only unemployment insurance they have. But, under current law, federal welfare time limits and work requirements continue to apply during periods of high-unemployment.

The Unemployment Protection for Low-Income Families through TANF Act, or UPLIFT Act, would require states to disregard federal TANF assistance for all recipients when the national unemployment rate reaches or exceeds 6.5 percent or when a state unemployment rises by 1.5 percentage points over a three-month period.

Every percentage point increase in unemployment results in a welfare caseload increase of 5 percent. In addition to enacting a strong contingency fund for states experiencing high unemployment and increased caseloads, Congress must act to ensure that welfare recipients are not time-limited off of welfare when the economy is weak and jobs are in short supply. In addition to promoting self-sufficiency, TANF programs should be a safety net

for low-income families who are unable to find work or meet their needs.

My legislation will help parents who are trying to transition from welfare to work, but are unable to find work during a weak economy, to provide for their families without the fear of losing cash assistance. The TANF program is not only about moving people from welfare to work, it is also about reducing poverty and helping families in need.

While welfare reform has succeeded at moving thousands of people into work, its success has come in strong economic times. As people reach their 5-year time limits, we can only hope they will be able to find jobs in what is now a more difficult economy. The reality is that many states are experiencing high unemployment right now, making it extremely difficult for welfare recipients to find good paying full-time jobs. We shouldn't penalize people who are trying to transition from welfare to work just because the economy is bad. We need to continue to help these families build their skills and find employment when times are tough.

As Congress acts to reauthorize the TANF program I ask my colleagues to support legislation that will protect families transitioning from welfare to work from losing their benefits during a recession.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the legislation be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 574

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Unemployment Protection for Low-Income Families on TANF Act of 2003" or the "UPLIFT Act of 2003".

SEC. 2. DISREGARD OF MONTHS OF ASSISTANCE RECEIVED DURING PERIODS OF HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408(a)(7) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 608(a)(7)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(H) DISREGARD OF ASSISTANCE RECEIVED DURING PERIODS OF HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—In determining the number of months for which an adult has received assistance under a State or tribal program funded under this part, the State or tribe shall disregard any month in which the State is determined to be a high unemployment State for that month.

"(ii) DEFINITION OF HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT STATE.—For purposes of clause (i), a State shall be considered to be a high unemployment State for a month if it satisfies either of the following criteria:

"(I) STATE RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT.—The average—

"(aa) rate of total unemployment (seasonally adjusted) in the State for the period consisting of the most recent 3 months for which data are available has increased by the lesser of 1.5 percentage points or by 50 percent over the corresponding 3-month period in either of the 2 most recent preceding fiscal years; or